

OPC Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • DECEMBER 2002

War and Satellite Imagery: Who Will Control the Pictures?

by Mike Moran

It is February, 2003 and your newsroom is focused on the U.S. military buildup along Iraq's southern frontier. Invasion appears imminent and you are finalizing your assignments. Suddenly, your network's satellite consultant, a man you never met, races out of his small, dark cubicle and says: "Something awful just happened on the Kuwait-Iraqi border." The wires are quiet. The Pentagon correspondent's got nothing. But the consultant insists. "It looks like it might be a chemical weapons attack on American troops. I've got imagery on this right now if you want to see."

If the coming months bring a new war in Iraq, the American news media may well cross a threshold once the exclusive preserve of a few powerful governments. High-resolution satellite imagery, now readily available on the market from companies in the United States, Russia, France, India and elsewhere, could provide U.S. newsrooms with detailed images of what is happening on the battlefield within minutes of

the event. Already, major networks and newspapers around the world are queuing up to hire these companies, and the professional imagery interpreters they employ, to keep themselves one step ahead of the competition....Not to mention the Pentagon.

Since 1994, when the U.S. government officially surrendered its domestic monopoly on satellite imagery, the world has seen an explosion of providers

and capabilities. What are the implications of this satellite imagery revolution for the news media? How is the Pentagon adjusting to what the Rand Corporation recently called "the era of global transparency?"

On Wednesday, December 11 at 6:00pm Michael Moran, an OPC board member and head of international news and special reports at MSNBC.com, will
(Continued on Page 3)

The Grand Myths of War

by Yvonne Dunleavy

The notion of war as seductive would seem to trivialize human sacrifice and tragedy on a vast scale. According to Chris Hedges, author of "War is a Force That Gives Us Meaning" (PublicAffairs) such a characterization is on target. War is an elixir that intoxicates and elevates us to a sense of life above the mundane; allows a flirtation with risk and mortality. It is a stimulant for ego and ambition; "none of it noble," he says. It is an opiate

versus the daily pabulum of mundane existence, a potent distraction from domestic and national shortcomings.

Speaking to an audience at the OPC on November 13, Hedges asserted that war in its germination, or myth mode, is perpetuated by artificial concepts and fiction for sustaining the morale of the state and other rationales, fed to us by the state through jingoism, aphorisms and idioms. The public will pay a terrible price for
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Chris Hedges, The New York Times; Alexis Gelber, Newsweek, Bill Holstein, OPC Foundation President and Bill Collins, Ford Motor Company, have a drink at the OPC bar before Hedges talked about his new book.

SONYA K. FRY

New Laws, Decrees and Trials Obstruct Free Press in Many Nations

by **Norman A. Schorr** and
Kevin McDermott

Co-Chairs, Freedom of the
Press Committee

Opponents of a free press have generally used conventional restrictive methods, including so-called "insult laws," manipulation of news coverage,

forced self-censorship, licensing of journalists, detention as well as physical attacks on journalists and the media.

Recently a number of countries have proposed, or instituted, and/or enacted new laws, regulations, legal prosecutions and other impediments to the harassment-free functioning of a free press. Following are some examples:

The Hong Kong Journalists Association reports that the government is considering new national-security legislation that would impose harsh restrictions on the media. Laws under consideration address "crimes" committed by journalists who publish or broadcast investigative reports the Hong Kong government considers threatening.

In Togo, journalists are worried that they and publications which report on politically sensitive subjects, such as Taiwanese independence or human rights violations in Tibet could be charged with high crimes.

France's Senate passed a bill on internal security giving police officers power to access computer files in order to seize information stored by Internet service providers. The Paris-based press-freedom advocacy group, Reporters Without Borders, says that authorities with a court order are now able to seize information recording the

online activities of Internet users.

In the Ukraine, a draconian anti-terrorism law which became effective in May 2002, threatens a death sentence for anyone publishing news "likely to promote terrorism." The law includes a broad definition of writing that "promotes" terrorism.

In Montenegro, a parliamentary coalition that controls two-thirds of the nation's municipalities is said to be trying to block three proposed media laws that would strengthen free expression.

Somalia's Parliament has passed a harsh media law requiring only the signature of the country's president to take effect. In protest, journalists went on strike October 2. The law prohibits publication said to be against so-called "common interests," as well as writing that opposes Islam, unity, security of the state, or the "social affairs of the people." Somalia's media include more than 20 newspapers, seven radio stations and two TV stations.

In Slovenia, a new act on Salaries and Reimbursement in the Public Sector is considered a threat to the independence of the country's public service broadcaster RTV SLO. Passed in April 2002 and slated to become effective in 2003, the new regulation violates inter-

(Continued on Page 4)

OPC HOLIDAY PARTY

Monday, January 6
6:00-9:00p.m.

Open Bar • Buffet Dinner
Dessert • Coffee
\$45 per person

Reservations Required

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“Hidden Power”: Kati Marton On First Ladies Then and Now

by Lee Townsend

Laura Bush turned 56 on Nov. 4. That milestone didn't get much media attention, not even at the OPC and Foreign Policy Association Book Party that night honoring First Ladies throughout our history. But maybe that's the point.

First Ladies don't command the attention their husbands get—at least not yet. And Kati Marton, author of a new updated paperback edition of her recent book, “Hidden Power: Presidential Marriages That Shaped our History” (Anchor Books), treated the 90 members and guests to a series of revealing stories of First Ladies past and present.

Marton said “the Bushes are by far *not* the most interesting couple” in Presidential history and writing about them is like “squeezing blood from a stone.” But Marton added Laura Bush “can give a much needed human face” to the current occupants of the White House. She also said Laura has a “friendlier relation with the English language than her husband.”

Marton described Laura Bush as the quietest First Lady since Bess Truman when she arrived at the White House but she was forced by events—mainly 9/11—to become much more engaged. “She, like her husband, has been transformed by history,” Marton said.

Marton said in “some ways Barbara Bush was our most powerful First Lady” and the current President is more like his mother than his father. George, Sr. was described as a largely absent father and the current President sometimes had to make an appointment to see his dad.

Marton, who wrote magazine articles, three other books and worked at ABC News, spent five years writing “Hidden Power” and talked to hundreds of people. From her Nov. 4 talk at Club Quarters and her “talking points” about the book, here are some insights to the tenants of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue:

- “The Presidents with brave spouses, willing to speak sometimes hard truths to a man most everyone fears, have a distinct advantage: had Pat Nixon been able to cut through her husband's paranoia, Watergate may have been avoided.”

- “Nancy (Reagan) didn't have an



Kati Marton greets OPC member Ruth Gruber at the OPC book night. Marton had written a bookjacket tribute for Gruber's new book, but they met in person for the first time at the event. Looking on is Doris Schechter who was one of the 1,000 refugees that Gruber rescued from war-torn Europe after World War II.

office in the West Wing. She didn't need one. She ran everything.” Nancy Reagan, during the Iran-contra scandals and Hillary Clinton, during the Lewinsky scandal, saved their husbands' careers. Marton said even during the Lewinsky scandal, Clinton's poll ratings were higher than Bush's are now.

- Harry Truman called the White House “The Great White Prison,” adding nobody likes to break “bad news to the big guy. That's where the first lady comes in.”

- “The indelible memory of Lady Bird keeping vigil with LBJ” when the body count from “the failed Vietnam War mounted.” She finally persuaded him not to run for reelection. “Everybody let me down except for Lady Bird,” LBJ said later.

- In an early indication of growing Presidential recognition of the importance of the First Lady came when John F. Kennedy and Jackie traveled to France and the President of the United States introduced himself: “I am the man

accompanying Jacqueline Kennedy to Paris.”

- The letters from Harry Truman to his wife, Bess, were the greatest tribute from a man to his spouse. Marton said that Truman never looked at another woman after Bess “which makes him unique.”

Predicting that someday we'll have a “First Gentleman,” the author said, “when we elect a man President, we are really electing two people.”

WAR AND SATELLITE IMAGERY

(Continued from Page 1)

moderate a panel discussion at Club Quarters on satellite imagery. Panelists include Robert Windrem, a senior investigative producer at NBC Nightly News; John Pike, director of satellite imagery provider GlobalSecurity.org and Dr. Bill Martel, currently the Alan Shepard Chair of Space Technology and Policy at the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. For reservations call (212) 626-9220.

Press Freedom in Americas: Challenges and Progress

by Norman A. Schorr

Freedom of the Press Committee

Press Freedom continues to face serious challenges in the Americas, including assassinations of journalists and other incidents of extreme violence.

This was the report given to the Oct. 30 meeting of the World Press Freedom Committee (WPFC) in Washington by Santiago A. Canton, executive secretary of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. The commission is an autonomous unit of the Organization of American States. OPC is an affiliate member of WPFC, and Larry Martz, former OPC president, is a member of the organization's board of directors.

Illustrating one serious challenge facing the press, Mr. Canton said that in the

first two and a half years of the current century, "20 journalists were murdered in the Americas because of their work."

However, there have been some improvements in this field. Canton cited three Latin American countries—Argentina, Paraguay and Costa Rica—which have eliminated long-held "desacato laws." That legislation, in force in many countries, brings criminal defamation penalties to journalists and the media responsible for critical articles or broadcasts alleged to be insulting to the country's president or other public officials.

Canton also told how precautionary measures, taken by his organization to protect threatened journalists, have saved many lives.

The WPFC meeting was led by James H. Ottaway, Jr., senior vice president of Dow Jones and chairman of the World Press Freedom Committee. In carrying out efforts to help promote and preserve press freedom around the world, Ottaway said, "our unique function is in our monitoring international organizations, such as the United Nations, where news media and press freedom issues are discussed. When we see a problem developing, we inform and mobilize the membership of our 44 affiliated press freedom organizations—

a cumulative voice of thousands," Ottaway reported.

He added that his organization welcomed the return of the United States into UNESCO, after having been a non-member since 1984.

Marilyn Greene, executive director of WPFC, told the gathering that the principal threats to attaining the organization's sought-after global environment in support of press freedom come from:

1. The global war on terrorism "which has yielded numerous new laws, rules and restrictions on access to and dissemination of information."

2. Increasing pressure to regulate cyberspace.

3. Deterioration of press freedom in individual countries.

There is concern, Greene said, about apparent backsliding in certain countries "which seemed just a few short years ago to be on the road to democracy and stability." Russia, Zimbabwe and Venezuela again are countries where press freedom is under severe pressure, Greene stated.

WPFC played an active role, she added, in the repeal of desacato laws in the three Latin American countries named by Canton. She also disclosed that following a WPFC mission to Chile in July, judges and members of Congress there agreed that desacato laws should be abolished, and since then, the president of Chile sent a bill to Chile's Congress to repeal the country's desacato law. The bill is now pending.

Peabody Awards Deadline Set

The entries deadline for the 62nd annual Peabody Awards has been set for January 15, 2003.

The awards announcement said "The intent of the Peabody Awards is to recognize outstanding achievement in electronic media, including radio, television and cable. The competition is open to entries produced for alternative means of electronic distribution, including corporate video, educational media, home-video release, World Wide Web and CD-Rom. The awards are for programs produced in 2002.

Submission categories are News, Entertainment, Programs for Children, Education, Documentaries, Public Service, and "accomplishments by an individual or institution in electronic media."

For further information write the George Foster Peabody Awards, Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication, Sanford Drive at Baldwin Street, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-3018. Tel. (706) 542-3787. Fax (706) 542-9273. Email: peabody@uga.edu

New Laws, Decrees and Trials Obstruct Free Press in Many Nations

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national agreements and is contrary to policies of all European Union member nations. RTV SLO obtains less than one percent of its budget from the government.

In Niger, during a mutiny of soldiers in a southeastern area of the country, President Mamadou Tanja issued a decree banning "propagation of information or allegations likely to be detrimental to the implementation of national defense operations."

The government of South Africa proposes to amend its Broadcasting Act which makes the country's broadcasters more vulnerable to political influence.

Both the Free Expression Institute (FXI) and the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) have expressed concern about the proposal. Both groups have said the new act would compel journalists to do their reporting in a manner that conforms to the government's position.

Argentina's PERIODISTAS free-press organization reports that there has been a 50 per cent increase in the use of courts to silence journalists.

The enemies of press freedom are resourceful. They do what they can to withhold the truth and make every effort to manipulate what passes as the truth.

The challenges to the press are formidable.



PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

ATHENS: OPC member **Constantine Soloyanis** reported to the *Bulletin* this autumn: "After having worked for the *New York Daily News* for over 17 years (before moving to Greece), and being a stringer for several U.S. papers, and writing a column ("An American in Athens") for some 35 years, which was published in several newspapers (including the *San Francisco Chronicle*), I have decided to retire at the age of 79. Thanks for the memories."

BALTIMORE: The International Society of Traumatic Stress Studies held its annual meeting in Baltimore in November. In a note to "People," OPC member **Peter Spielmann** wrote that by coincidence "participants gathered at the current epicenter of stress and trauma in America," referring to the October sniper slayings in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. Spielmann, a former AP correspondent in Belgium and now an AP editor and supervisor in New York, was among journalists, doctors, social workers, emergency response

teams and scholars who attended the meeting to study emotional injury, its effects on victims of disaster and violence, and implications for journalists who write, photograph and produce the news.

Spielmann and seven other fellows sponsored by the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma, based at the University of Washington, participated in the program: **Maria T. Alvarez**, *New York Post* reporter; **David T. Cullen**, freelance journalist; **Seamus Kelters**, BBC television producer; **Julia A. Lieblich**, religion writer for the *Chicago Tribune*; **Joseph L. Rodriguez**, self-employed photojournalist; **Linell N. Smith**, feature writer for *The Baltimore Sun*; and **Ruth D. Teichroeb**, social issues reporter for the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*.

From Baltimore, Spielmann accompanied 10 editors and news producers on a fact-finding trip to South Africa to see the effects of AIDS and poverty. The trip was organized by the Pew International Journalism Program at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies

at Johns Hopkins University, a program administered by OPC member **John Schidlovsky**.

BEIJING: Touring China, OPC member **George Burns** and his wife **Barbara** rendezvoused in Beijing with two OPC members. The Burns family had dinner with CNN's Beijing bureau chief, **Jaime FlorCruz**, and his wife **Ana**, and lunch with **Ming Cui**, publisher of the glossy, new business magazine *Wealth* (the only English word in it). Wherever you go in the world, there's OPC.



OPC member George Burns and his wife Barbara with Ming Cui, publisher of the glossy, new business magazine "Wealth."



George and Barbara Burns at dinner with Beijing CNN bureau chief Jaime FlorCruz and his wife Anna.

Welcome to Our New Members

Jordan Bonfante

Contributor
Time, UPI
Berlin, Germany
active overseas

Keith Bradsher

Hong Kong Bureau Chief
The New York Times
active overseas

Peter Doyle

Producer
CBS News - 48 Hours
active resident

Dorinda Elliott

Former Editor
Asiaweek
active resident

Marc S. Lacey

Nairobi Bureau Chief
The New York Times
Nairobi, Kenya
active overseas

Robyn Meredith

Senior Editor, Asia
Forbes
Hong Kong
active overseas

Evelyn Renold

Senior Deputy Editor
Good Housekeeping
active resident

Kathleen White

Writer
Sagaponack, NY
associate non resident

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

George Bookman, Chair
David Fondiller
Elinor Griest
Marshall Loeb

CANBERRA: In the July-September 1942 Kokoda battle, Australian troops, fighting in mountainous New Guinea jungles, inflicted their first Pacific War defeat on the invading Japanese. The controversial role of General Douglas MacArthur, the Pacific commander; his Australian generals; and the military censors was discussed by speakers at the second annual symposium of the C. E. W. Bean Foundation this autumn. Named for an Australian World War I correspondent and historian, the Foundation honors Australian war correspondents. Symposium speakers Neil McDonald, Sally White, Chris Masters and Kim Beazley, a former Australian defense minister, described the work of Australian correspondents who covered Kokoda: **Chester Wilmot, Osmar**
(Continued on Page 6)

PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 5)

White, Damien Parer, George Silk and Albert Moore.

Two hundred journalists, politicians, scholars, war veterans and diplomats attended the lectures and dinner. Australian Defense Minister Robert Hill gave the keynote address. *New York Times* correspondent **John Shaw** told "People" that the Bean Foundation's next project will be to research the work of Australian correspondents who covered the Korean and Vietnam Wars. The Foundation can be contacted at P. O. Box 58, Red Hill, Australia, 2603.

DILI, East Timor: Two Indonesian army officers were indicted by East Timor in November on 17 counts of "crimes against humanity," including the 1999 murder in East Timor of Dutch journalist **Sander Thoenes**, who was reporting for the *Financial Times* and *The Christian Science Monitor*. Thoenes was one of two journalists killed in violence that followed East Timor's 1999 vote for independence from Indonesia. He received a posthumous citation in the OPC's Hal Boyle Award for his reporting from Indonesia and East Timor.

Agence France-Presse quoted an East Timor prosecutor as saying "soldiers from the battalion walked up to [Thoenes] and shot him single-shot in the chest...effectively point-blank range." Indicted were Major Jacob Sarosa, the battalion commander, and Lieutenant Camilo dos Santos, a platoon commander. **Ann Cooper**, executive director of the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists, said: "Indonesian authorities will now have two options. Either prosecute the suspects who are on active duty in the Indonesian military, or extradite them immediately [to East Timor]."

KAZAKHSTAN: Journalist **Sergei Duvanov**, a critic of Kazakhstan's authoritative president, conducted an 11-day hunger strike in November to protest what he called a government effort to frame him on child-rape charges. He ended his strike after authorities started force-feeding him. Duvanov, 49, was arrested Oct. 28 on charges he raped a 14-year-old girl after forcing her to drink alcohol at his dacha. Duvanov, a frequent target of Kazakhstan's government, denied the charges and said he fell unconscious after drinking tea. One of

Kazakhstan's leading journalists, he told the AP that authorities used "the dirtiest, most deceitful means to discredit me" before Western governments. He was arrested just hours before he was to fly to the United States to speak on press freedom and human rights at the Open Society Institute in New York and at Radio Liberty and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington. Duvanov edits a newsletter for Kazakhstan's Bureau for Human Rights and the Rule of Law.

LAKE WORTH, Florida: **Leonard Saffir**, OPC president 1988-1990 and now an investigative reporter and columnist for *The Lake Worth Herald* chain of weekly newspapers in Palm Beach County, is writing about allegations from U.S. Postal Service whistle blowers. An International News Service correspondent in Tokyo in the 1950s, Saffir started writing about the Postal Service last year after anthrax was discovered in a local post office. His articles appear on the web site www.postalwatch.org. In a November report to "People," Saffir wrote: "To date, I have written some 50 articles, reporting on and from a major portion of the country of a postal service that has become an over abundance of institutional arrogance, hurting, humiliating and destroying lives. The articles detail unbelievable stories of the demeaning of human dignity by the U.S. Postal Service and the high pressure, often criminal tactics of managers, supervisors and postmasters all over the country." Now Saffir is writing a book on the Postal Service and its 900,000 employees "that, just by purchases of postal workers alone, could be a best seller."

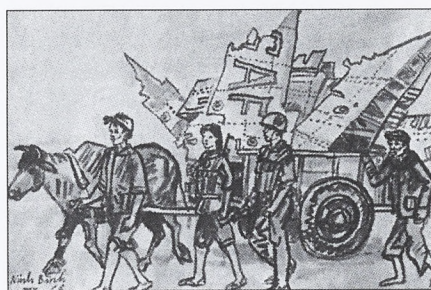
LEBANON, New Jersey: Lisa Uchrin, daughter of longtime OPC member **Fred Ferguson**, was elected mayor of Lebanon, NJ, in November after being



Lisa Uchrin

nominated by one vote, her own. In the primary election, Lisa found only a Republican running for mayor, so she wrote her own name on the Democratic line. "She discovered to her surprise, she had nominated herself," Ferguson reported to "People." She won the general election, 259-196, against the incumbent Republican mayor

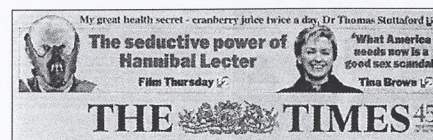
of Lebanon, a borough with a population of 1,200 including 800 registered Republicans and 100 Democrats. Ferguson reported his daughter marched this year in Lebanon's "Memorial Day parade, sash draped, big sun hat, waving to the crowd of about 10, preceded by her professor husband, Chris, who pushed their three-year-old George in a stroller. Georgie held up a big sign, "Vote for Uchrin, Vote for Change, One Vote Counts." Democrat Uchrin will preside over a borough council, all Republicans.



"Transporting the Remains of American Plane," 1966, by Huy Toan.

LONDON: A collection of 124 posters, paintings and drawings made by North Vietnamese and Viet Cong artists during the Vietnam War were displayed at the British Museum this autumn. OPC member **Alan Riding**, *The New York Times* European cultural correspondent, reported: "While the paintings and drawings in this exhibition often show uniformed soldiers at rest or firing artillery pieces, the artists do not portray the ravages of jungle warfare or American bombing. One reason was the government's propaganda machine felt that such 'defeatist' images would undermine the myth of Hanoi's invincibility." The watercolors, pen-and-ink sketches, and crayon and chalk drawings show soldiers listening to a transistor radio, a soldier getting a haircut, another washing clothes in a stream and soldiers carrying provisions through the jungle. "Just one shows a bullock-drawn cart carrying remnants of a downed American aircraft, but even here there is no triumphalism in the image," Riding wrote.

◆
Tina Brown, whose new column in *The Times* of London has been promoted atop the paper's nameplate, says she can



The Times of London nameplate.

write a little racier in Britain than in the United States, where she had been editor of *Vanity Fair*, *The New Yorker* and the short-lived *Talk*. The Oct. 10 plug atop *The Times* front page quoted her: "What America needs now is a good sex scandal." In a telephone interview from New York, Brown told **Sarah Lyall**, a *New York Times* London correspondent: "There is more opportunity to be a little more open, a little racier in the British press than it is here." In her first column in the London *Times* from New York, Brown called **Gerald M. Levin**, former chief executive of AOL Time Warner, a "hamsterish figure" and said **Robert Hughes**, *Time's* art critic, sent Levin an E-mail: "How can I convey to you the disgust which your name awakens in me?"

In a speech at the London Press Club's service to celebrate the opening of the exhibition, "300 Years of Fleet Street", Prince Charles harked back to George II and said that "giving me a pulpit, or a lectern, to occupy could be a hazardous move!" The program, held this spring in St. Bride's Church on Fleet Street next to the Club's premises, marked the founding in 1702 of the *Daily Courant*, Britain's first national daily. This summer *Press2000*, the Club's journal, published the full text of Prince Charles' remarks. He told the guests: "I don't know a great deal about the *Daily Courant* apart from its birth date, 300 years ago this month, and that of its demise in 1735, the victim not of those dread words, an 'advertising slump', but of the swing of a ministerial axe possibly, but not necessarily, wielded on the orders of one of my ancestors, King George II!"



(L-R) Dennis Griffiths, Chairman of the London Press Club, and Prince Charles.

◆
Lord Robertson, secretary-general of NATO, was guest of honor and speaker at the London Press Club's annual awards luncheon this year. He told the 200 guests: "While I have never been a journalist, I am well aware of what the job demands, and not much seems easy—from dodging bullets in war zones, to finding some whiff of substance in the careful ambiguity of a political speech."

MOSCOW: Anna Politkovskaya, a reporter for the Moscow newspaper *Novaya Gazeta* spoke at an OPC breakfast Oct. 15, but she cut short her U.S. visit to return to Russia and participate in negotiations with Chechen rebels who were holding 700 people hostage in a Moscow theater. Politkovskaya was scheduled to receive a Courage in Journalism Award from the International Women's Media Foundation in Los Angeles Oct. 24. But on Oct. 23, she received word that the rebels had asked her to participate in negotiations. She left for home immediately, and AP photographed her leaving the theater after meeting with the Chechens. Russian military ended the 57-hour crisis by pumping gas in the theater, and a reported 128 hostages and 41 Chechen rebels died.

Before leaving Los Angeles, Politkovskaya wrote a message to the Foundation dated at 4:10 a.m. on Oct. 24 that was read during the awards ceremony by **John Puermer**, publisher of the *Los Angeles Times*: "It is a great honor for me to receive the Courage in Journalism Award...It is an even greater honor for me to respond when destiny offers the opportunity to help people when a crisis strikes. There's a big tragedy unfolding in Russia today, and those circumstances require that it is today, and not a day later, that I need to prove that I indeed have courage....I am ever more convinced that the war in Chechnya must be brought to an end. And today, the time has come for me to appeal to President Bush and plead with him to use his influence on President Putin to stop the bloodshed in Chechnya, and to prevent it in Moscow."

In a Nov. 8 *New York Times* op-ed article, Politkovskaya wrote: "A young generation of radical Chechen fighters...is now fighting far more cruelly for the liberation of their land from federal forces than the Aslan Maskhadov, the aging Chechen president. And only a small fraction of those radicals was

destroyed by Russian special forces in the Moscow theater on Oct. 26; the far larger part is preparing new acts of revenge against Russia that we cannot anticipate."

NEW YORK: OPC Foundation Scholarship winners reported from new scenes this autumn. **Corrie MacLaggan**, who won this year's Roy Rowan Scholarship with an essay on her interviews in Vietnam with people too young to remember the "American War," now is working in Texas. In an E-mail to **Brooke Janis**, OPC Foundation director, Corrie reported: "I graduated from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in May with a dual degree in journalism and Spanish. I spent the summer as a features intern at my hometown paper, the *Austin [Texas] American-Statesman*. In August, I moved to El Paso, Texas, where I am working as the education reporter for *The El Paso Times*. I'm finding it fascinating to live in the El Paso-Juarez area, the largest urban border community in the world. I am really enjoying the challenges of this new job. I speak Spanish all the time, and I cover the nine El Paso County school districts plus larger education issues as they affect El Paso."

Anna Sophie Loewenberg won last year's Roy Rowan scholarship with a report on her four years in Beijing and graduated from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. She E-mailed Janis: "I am currently in San Francisco working as a teacher and freelance writer. I have been to China several times since last year, and I am now working on short documentary film, [and] I am also working on a radio piece for Pacific Time, a KQED show here in the Bay Area."

Billy Nessen, who won the first Dan
(Continued on Page 8)

SAVE THE DATE: OPC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

Thursday, January 23
Noon
at the Yale Club

PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 7)

Eldon Scholarship in 2000 with a report on his experiences with guerrillas fighting against Indonesian troops in East Timor, is back in Indonesia and reporting about trouble in the Aceh area of Sumatra, his mother, Hermine, told OPC Executive Director **Sonya Fry**.

Members of the OPC board met in October with **Mariane Pearl** for a quiet conversation over drinks at Club Quarters. Mariane, widow of murdered *Wall Street Journal* reporter **Daniel Pearl**, is in New York working on an HBO documentary and a book about her experiences in South Asia with her husband. The Board gave her honorary membership in the OPC. When **Larry Martz** was OPC president, he invited her to participate in this April's annual awards dinner, but she could not travel from Paris because she was near the end of her pregnancy. Her son Adam was born May 28.

David Ignatius, executive editor of the *International Herald Tribune*, soon will have one boss instead of two. The New York Times Company, co-owner of the Paris-based newspaper, is buying out the other owner, the Washington Post Company. An October announcement from the New York Times Company said it and the Washington Post Company signed a letter of intent under which the Times Company will purchase the Post Company's 50 percent share of the *IHT*, thus ending a 35-year partnership. The deal is expected to close late this year or early next year, the Times Company said.

Felicity Barringer, a *New York Times* writer, reported the deal as if she did not work for *The Times*: "Several Post Company executives criticized the Times Company's negotiating tactics. A memo



David Ignatius



International Herald Tribune

circulated to editors and foreign correspondents at *The Washington Post* said that Times Company executives had accompanied their offer with threats. *The Post* memo said that Times Company executives took the position that if they were unable to buy out the Post Company interest, the Times Company would 'start its own international edition anyway' to compete with *The Herald Tribune*, and would block any further subsidy of *The Herald Tribune's* current deficit. That deficit is currently running at just under \$5 million on a \$100 million annual budget, according to one person with access to financial documents. **Catherine Mathis**, a spokeswoman for the Times Company, responded simply, 'This was a mutual decision.'

IHT executive editor Ignatius, a former *Washington Post* staffer, commented from Paris: "There's a lot of anxiety in our newsroom. *The Tribune* is an eccentric, quirky but quite wonderful paper. For all its difficulties in getting ad revenue, it has a lot of readers who love it." The *IHT* was founded as *The Paris Herald* 115 years ago by **James Gordon Bennett**, publisher of *The New York Herald*. Its circulation last year was 263,878.

Steven Erlanger, who became *The New York Times* Berlin bureau chief last year, has returned to New York as the newspaper's new cultural news editor, succeeding **John Darnton**, who was appointed a *Times* associate editor for special projects. Darnton will arrange and moderate public forums on international, domestic and cultural issues for *Times* readers and for use on New York Times Television and its Web site. Darnton, 60, became cultural editor in 1996. He had reported from London, Poland, where he won a 1982 Pulitzer Prize, and Spain and served as *The Times* weekend news editor, deputy foreign editor and metropolitan editor.

Before Berlin, Erlanger, 50, was based in Prague, Washington, Moscow and Bangkok for *The Times* and earlier in London with *The Boston Globe*. He was part of *The Times* team that won this year's Pulitzer Prize for explanatory reporting on the roots of Al Qaeda. He now supervises a 60-member cultural staff that produces the daily "Arts" section, "Arts & Ideas" on Saturdays, "Arts & Leisure" on Sundays and "Weekend" on Fridays.

Francis X. Clines, a *New York Times* correspondent in London and then Moscow, 1986-1992, became an editorial writer for the newspaper in December. Before moving to the editorial board, Clines was a *Times* national correspondent. He joined *The Times* as a copy boy in 1958.

Sandra Mims Rowe, editor of *The Oregonian* in Portland since 1993, is the new chair of the Pulitzer Prize board. She succeeds *Los Angeles Times* editor **John Carroll**, who remains a member of the Pulitzer Prize panel.

The Financial Times is offering workspace in its New York City newsroom for a reporter, preferably from a non-U.S. publication. In an E-mail to the OPC, **Rivka Nachoma**, *FT* editorial manager, wrote: "There is a sizable private work area, fully fitted with a new desktop computer, dedicated printer, private fax machine and cable-ready television. The reporter would have full access to our cuttings files and newswires, along with other office services. Our terms are negotiable." If interested, contact Nachoma at (212) 641-6501.

Columbia University President Lee C. Bollinger has selected a committee to consider overhauling curriculum at the University's Graduate School of Journalism before a new dean is appointed (September *Bulletin*). Committee members from the media and the school's faculty include OPC member **Steve Shepard**, *Business Week* editor in chief; **Bob Woodward**, *Washington Post*; **Rick Smith**, *Newsweek* editor-in-chief; **Ken Auletta**, *New Yorker*; **Susan Spencer**, CBS News; **Claire Shipman**, ABC News; **Gwen Ifill**, PBS; **Nicholas Lemann**, Washington correspondent for *The New Yorker*; **Clarence Page**, *Chicago Tribune* columnist; **Michael Oreskes**, *New York Times* assistant managing editor; **Anna Quindlen**, *Newsweek* columnist and author; and faculty members **Victor Navasky**, who also is editorial director of *The Nation*, and **Todd Gitlin**.

ROME: **Gail Edmondson**, *Business Week's* Rome bureau chief, has been transferred to Frankfurt. **Michael Serrill**, the magazine's international senior editor, told OPC Foundation President **Bill Holstein**, a former *Business Week* correspondent and now a freelance business

writer, that the magazine has closed its Rome bureau.

SAN FRANCISCO: John Polich, a former OPC board member, was appointed associate dean for MBA and Executive Programs at the Ageno School of Business, Golden Gate University, in November. Polich, 56, joined the university faculty earlier this year as a professor of marketing after teaching MBA students at Fordham University throughout the 1990s on the economic and political benefits of an advertising-supported free press. Earlier he conducted media research for several organizations including the *Detroit Free Press*, *The New York Times* and Freedom Forum.

WASHINGTON: The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund has established the Joseph L. Galloway War Correspondents Award, named for OPC member **Joe Galloway**, who covered the Vietnam War for UPI. At a ceremony at the Vietnam Wall earlier this year, the first \$10,000 award was presented to **Alexander Perry**, a *Time* correspondent for his coverage of Afghanistan. Jan Scruggs, executive director of the Memorial Fund, said: "The Joseph L. Galloway War Correspondents Award is designed to heighten the awareness of war correspondents' service and their crucial role in educating the public as they report on conflicts around the world."

Meanwhile, Galloway is concerned about what he calls deterioration in military-media relations. In a lecture at the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama, Joe commented: "A generation of officers emerged from that searing, bitter, orphaned war looking for someone to blame for the failures manifest in our nation's defeat in Vietnam. Many chose to blame the media....By choosing the easy way out they obviated the painful need to carefully examine the root causes of our failure to win."

Galloway and retired Lt. Gen. **Harold G. Moore** wrote "We Were Soldiers Once...and Young," a 1992 book about the first major battle fought by U.S. troops against the North Vietnamese military. Joe covered the 1965 battle, and Moore commanded the U.S. units. The

book was made into a Hollywood movie, released in March and now is available on pay-for-view television and in video.

Decades ago, OPC member **Dan Morris**, 80, earned degrees in civil engineering and Chinese studies at Cornell University. Now living in Ithaca, New York, Dan is a freelance writer, editor of engineering books and a lecturer. He dipped into history in November when he spoke at the sesquicentennial meeting of the American Society of Civil Engineers on "John Smeaton, First Civil Engineer, 1776."

IN MEMORY

Rudolf Augstein, 79, founder and publisher of *Der Spiegel*, the German weekly news magazine, died of pneumonia Nov. 7. He joined a Hanover newspaper in 1941 but was drafted into the German army as a telegraph operator and later an artillery observer in World War II, and was wounded on the eastern front. In 1947 at age 23, Augstein took over a weekly news magazine from the British occupiers of Germany and began publishing *Der Spiegel* [The Mirror]. Circulation increased from 65,000 in 1948 to 1.1 million now. In 1962, *Der Spiegel* published an article that raised questions over NATO's military preparedness. Several of the magazine's journalists were arrested. Augstein turned himself in to police and was held in jail for 103 days on treason charges, later dropped for lack of evidence. In a *New York Times* obituary, **Alan Cowell** wrote from London: "With few parallels in European publishing, Mr. Augstein exerted broad influence on his country's press, politicians and policies."

Ian Mutsu, 95, an international journalist for more than half a century except for three years during World War II when he resigned from a Japanese news agency, died in Tokyo Oct. 30. After the war he joined the Tokyo bureau of United Press as an editor. On Jan. 30, 1949, he was scheduled to go duck hunting in Tokyo Bay with UP bureau chief **Miles (Peg) Vaughn**, and **Teizo Ueda**, former president of Dentsu, predecessor of Domei News Agency. But an illness in the bureau kept Mutsu at his desk, and

Vaughn and Ueda drowned when bad weather hit their boat. Mutsu left UP in 1950 to pursue a career as a newsreel cameraman and producer. He then spent 50 years as president of Tokyo's International Motion Picture Company, where he made documentary films on Japan for international distribution. During the Korean War, Mutsu and the late brothers **Gene** and **Julie Zenier** handled a pool for newsreel companies.

Ian's grandfather, Munemitsu Mutsu, served as Japan's foreign minister during the Sino-Japanese War that started in 1894. Ian's father also was a Japanese diplomat, and his mother was an Englishwoman. Ian started in journalism in 1931 as a news writer at the *Japan Advertiser*, an English-language newspaper. In 1939, he joined Domei news agency, forerunner of today's Kyodo News and Jiji Press. Mutsu recalled that the Pacific War was a tragedy for him because it involved fighting "the countries of my father and my mother.... I watched in sadness as journalism, Domei English brand, deteriorated as the fortunes of war turned against Japan." So he left Domei in 1942 and spent the rest of the war at the family home in Karuizawa, a mountain resort town. When his father died in 1942, Ian became Count Mutsu, a title inherited from his grandfather. But Japan ended its peerage after the war. Mutsu joined the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan in 1946 and along with **Ray Falk**, another Tokyo journalist, was the Club's longest continuous member. Mutsu is survived by his wife, **Sachiko Matsuda Mutsu**, whom he married four years ago when he was 91 and on her 63rd birthday.

David Horowitz, 99, who reported from the United Nations for 50 years, died Oct. 27 in New York City. He started reporting from the U.N. in 1947 when it was based at Lake Success, New York, and was a working member of the press corps almost until his death. He first wrote mainly for *United Israel Bulletin*. In 1954 he founded World Union Press, writing a column with a Jewish and Biblical perspective on U.N. events. About 30 newspapers published the column. From 1969-1972 he was managing editor of *The American Examiner*, forerunner of *The Jewish Week*. Horowitz was elected president of the United Nations Correspondents Association in 1981. He was born in Sweden, son of a

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Joseph Galloway



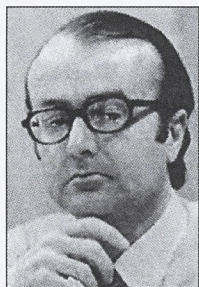
Rudolf Augstein

PEOPLE – IN MEMORY

(Continued from Page 9)

cantor who immigrated to the United States in 1914.

◆
Thomas B. Ross, 73, who covered President Nixon's 1972 visit to China that reopened Washington's relations with Beijing, died of pancreatic cancer Oct. 24 in a Long Island hospital. After working for International News Service, Ross joined the Chicago *Sun-Times*, spending nearly two decades with the paper. He was a *Sun-Times* Washington correspondent in 1960



Thomas B. Ross

when the Soviets shot down Francis Gary Powers' U.S. spy plane over Russia. He and **David Wise** investigated the incident and wrote the 1962 book "The U-2 Affair." Ross left the *Sun-Times* in 1977

GRAND MYTHS OF WAR

(Continued from Page 1)

ingesting the "jingoistic crap."

Hedges explained the difference between the myth of war and the sensory mode. For example, in Vietnam the myth was that unless communism was stopped at all cost there would be a domino effect spreading communist ideology to entire regions of the world. We moved into sensory mode when Americans began returning home in body bags.

Modern warfare is industrialized slaughter, as defined by Hedges, impersonal and remote with the whites of the enemy eyes portrayed on a screen as red dots to be eradicated. The myth is that modern warfare is a video game. The cost-free aspect of the myth becomes tragically real in the sober aftermath of war, when the tumult and the shouting dies and a nation is left to deal with psychological and spiritual ravages that can take generations to heal.

Hedges explained that all the world's major religions have been appropriated by right wing Fundamentalists. The problem with battling Al Qaeda is that it is not a country, religion or even an identifiable group. "How can you wage real war on a idea?" He also looked at the "War on Terror" from an Islamic point of view. Consider the Troika of Evil: Bush, Sharon and Putin.

Hedges, on *The New York Times* team investigating world terrorism networks,

to become assistant U.S. secretary of defense for public affairs, a post he held until 1981. He later was communications director for the Celanese Corporation in New York City, became a senior vice president of RCA, NBC and Hill & Knowlton, and, at the time of his death, vice president for government relations at Loral Space and Communications.

◆
Xu Zhongtian, 62, president of the *People's Daily*, China's official newspaper, died Oct. 24 in Beijing after a heart attack. He joined the *People's Daily* in 1995 and was its editor-in-chief and vice president before being appointed president last year. Former head of the Communist Party's provincial propaganda department in Jilin in northeast China, Xu was president of the China Newspaper Association as the time of his death.

◆
Before he became a spy, **Richard Helms** considered a career in journalism.

says they have yet to uncover any evidence of a connection between Iraq and Al Qaeda. He asserted that North Korea would be the more logical target for a US strike, except that it has a 1.1 million man army and no oil. "When we got there, the only thing we could do is set up soup kitchens."

Hedges, who covered wars in Central America, the Middle East and the Balkans for the *Dallas Morning News*, *Christian Science Monitor* and *The New York Times*, last year received two major awards, a Pulitzer as a member of the *Times* team coverage of global terrorism, and the 2002 Amnesty International Global Award for Human Rights Journalism.

Hedges castigated the press who he believes is too often "part of the problem" in perpetuating the rationale for war. He calls for greater emphasis on penetrating the core truths obfuscated by avalanches of verbiage out of Washington—his chronic combatant. When he was covering the Persian Gulf War he said that his colleagues were content to sit through several daily press conferences in the safety of tents rather than go out into the field. As sartorial and sardonic protest toward colleagues dressed in fatigues to "cover the Gulf war," in what he perceived as emblematic of a cozy collusion with the military, Hedges arrived for combat dressed in an Armani suit.

In 1935 he graduated from Williams College, where he was class president and editor of the college newspaper and yearbook. After college, Helms paid his own fare to London and joined United Press



Richard Helms

as a European correspondent. During three years with the wire service, his assignments included the 1936 summer Olympic Games in Berlin. For his entry in UPI's 2001 alumni directory, Helms, who was fluent in French and German, wrote that he "scored a journalistic coup by obtaining a lengthy interview with German dictator Adolf Hitler." According to *The Washington Post* obituary, Helms was one of a group of foreign correspondents to interview Hitler in 1937. In 1938 he became advertising manager for an Indianapolis, Indiana, newspaper and joined the U.S. Navy in 1942.

During World War II, Helms worked for the Office of Strategic Services in England and France and remained an intelligence agent when the OSS became the CIA. He rose through the ranks and in 1966 was appointed CIA director. When President Nixon asked him to help thwart an FBI investigation into Watergate, Helms refused and Nixon forced him out of the CIA and sent him to Iran as ambassador. He later became an international consultant, specializing in trade with the Middle East. In the 1970s Congressional investigators said Helms lied or withheld information about the U.S. role in assassination attempts in Cuba, anti-government activities in Chile and illegal surveillance of journalists in the United States. He received a two-year suspended sentence and was fined \$2,000, paid by contributions from his former CIA colleagues. Helms 89, died Oct. 23 in Washington, D.C., of multiple myeloma.

◆
Sally Shinn, 75, died one week after the Oct. 7 death of her husband, **Bill Shinn**, 84, who scored one of the biggest scoops of the Korean War (November *Bulletin*). The family said Sally was diabetic and had been on dialysis for years. Bill, then an AP correspondent, beat all other correspondents when he flashed the first bulletin that United Nations troops had landed at Inchon behind North Korean lines on Sept. 15, 1950. Bill and

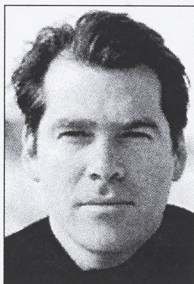
NEW BOOKS

(Continued from Page 12)

of the world's caviar supply and ran its caviar business as a monopoly, controlling production and keeping prices in the luxury range.

MIDDLE EAST

• During 16 years of reporting, **Charles M. Sennott**, European bureau chief of *The Boston Globe*, covered the Persian Gulf War, civil conflict in Northern Ireland, wars in Latin America and Afghanistan, the World Trade Center bombing and the standoff at Waco, Texas. With a new preface, Sennott's "The Body and the Blood: The Middle East's Vanishing Christians and the Possibility for Peace" [New York: PublicAffairs] has been issued in paperback. The author examines the dwindling Christian communities in the Middle East, searching for answers to why Christianity is dying out in the land where it began and what are the consequences for the Middle East. In his reporting, Sennott traveled from



Charles Sennott

PEOPLE - IN MEMORY

(Continued from Page 10)

Sally lived in Seoul and then Tokyo before retiring in Los Angeles. They are survived by two sons, John Shinn, who lives in Florida, and Sam Shinn, Los Angeles.

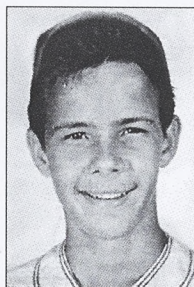
◆
Carlos Castaneda, 70, publisher emeritus of Miami's Spanish-language *El Nuevo Herald*, died of leukemia Oct. 10. "He transformed the newspaper," said **Alberto Ibarguen**, chairman and publisher of the Miami Herald Publishing Company, *El Nuevo's* parent company. "The idea was that *El Nuevo* should become a Latin American newspaper that happens to be edited in this North American country." Born in Havana, Cuba, Castaneda came to New York in 1960 and from 1965-1969 was editor and publisher of the Spanish-language version of *Life* magazine. He then spent 28 years as editor-publisher of the Puerto Rican newspaper *El Nuevo Dia*.

Israel to Lebanon to Egypt to Jordan to the ancient cities of the West Bank.

NORTH AMERICA

• OPC member **Tom Brokaw** calls the young men and women who lived through the Great Depression and World War II "the greatest generation." Hardcover and paperback copies of his three books on this generation total 6.5 million. Now in "A Long Way From Home: Growing Up in the American Heartland" [New York: Random House], Brokaw, 62, recalls growing up as a son of the greatest generation. The "NBC Nightly News" anchor told **Sherryl Connelly**, the New York *Daily News* book editor, that his latest book will be his last on the generation of the 1930s and 1940s. "In a way, I promised myself I would never write a memoir," Connelly quoted Brokaw. "What I determined after 'The Greatest Generation' was there was so much interest in the values of the time in which I was raised and the people who raised me. It made me examine my own life."

Tom's father, Anthony Orville Brokaw, who died in 1982 at age 69, spent most of his life working on construction projects in South Dakota for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. His mother, Jean Conley, who is still living, grew up on a South Dakota farm that her family lost during the Depression. In high school, Tom was a starting guard on the basketball team, president of the student council, governor of the American Legion-sponsored schoolboy government and partner of real Governor Joe Foss on the New York quiz show "Two for the Money" in 1957. The *Daily News* article continued: "'The last chapter will surprise a lot of people,' Brokaw says. 'When I went skidding off the tracks.' He spent his freshman year at the University of Iowa cruising coeds, drinking beer and playing pool. Retreating to the University of South Dakota for his sophomore year, he continued to blow off classes as he nursed hangovers. Eventually he dropped out. Having already made a start in broadcasting, Brokaw took a job at a CBS affiliate in Rapid City, S.D. But harsh words from friend Meredith Auld, who would



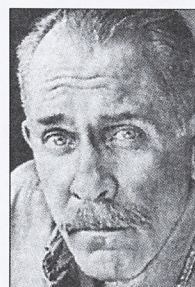
**Tom Brokaw
in high school**

become his wife, and others brought him back to college and into the fold."

• **Thomas Steinbeck**, a soldier and then a photojournalist in the Vietnam War, is following in the footsteps of his father, author **John Steinbeck** (1902-1968), who won a 1940 Pulitzer Prize for his novel "Grapes of Wrath" and the 1962 Nobel Prize in Literature. Thomas wrote "Down to a Soundless Sea" [New York: Ballantine], a collection of seven short stories about sailors, ranchers and immigrants in California at the turn of the century through the 1930s. His agent showed some of the stories at the Frankfurt book fair last year, winning Steinbeck, 58, a contract to write a novel about a ranching family at the start of the 20th century. **Martin Arnold** of *The New York Times* quoted Thomas: "Through this [novel], I want to examine race relations. Early on, everyone got along in California, and then Yankee racism came. My best friends were all Japanese and Chinese and Mexican kids, and suddenly a week later I wasn't supposed to like them."

• A collection of memoirs from the mid-1930s includes personal reminiscences from Hollywood stars, journalists, cartoonists and others including Gregory Peck, Shirley Temple Black, Daniel Schorr, Tom Wicker, Al Hirschfeld, Mort Walker Art Linkletter and our own OPC member **Barney Oldfield**. The memoirs are published in "A Nation Lost and Found: 1936 America Remembered by Ordinary and Extraordinary People" [Los Angeles: Tallfellow Press].

In 1936 Oldfield was a \$14-a-week reporter on the *Lincoln Journal* in Nebraska. His memoir recalled that Jim Beltzer, a Lincoln pool hall operator, bet that Alf Landon would beat Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 1936 presidential election. FDR won in a landslide, and Beltzer paid off by walking the 100 miles from Lincoln to Grand Island, Nebraska. On a Western Union telegram form, Oldfield typed a message to Beltzer: "If I had run as well as you had walked I'd be president of the United States. Alf Landon." Oldfield wrote that Beltzer "died thinking that Landon had written him."



Thomas Steinbeck

New Books

AFRICA

• In "Emma's War" [New York: Pantheon Books], **Deborah Scroggins**, a former reporter in Africa for *The Atlanta-Journal Constitution*, describes the Sudan civil war through the adventures of Emma McCune, a young Englishwoman who went to Sudan as an



Emma McCune and Riek Machar with their bodyguards in southern Sudan, 1992.

aid worker in 1987. Since fighting started in 1983, more than two million people have been killed in the conflict between the Arab Islamic north and black animist south. Emma, who wore miniskirts and kept duty-free vodka and copies of *Vogue* in her tent, helped set up schools for thousands of southern Sudanese children and had a string of affairs with Sudanese men. Local people called her "the tall woman from small Britain." Emma falls in love and marries Riek Machar, a commander of the rebel

Sudanese People's Liberation Army whose Sudanese wife and three children are marooned in England. Riek tries unsuccessfully to overthrow John Garang, leader of the rebel movement whose forces accuse Emma of being a spy and a whore. Finally, Emma is killed in an auto accident. Reviewing the book in *The New York Times*, author **George Packer** comments that by building an account of "the Sudanese civil war around the short, happy life of an Englishwoman...there is probably no other way to get more than a handful of Westerners to read a book about Africa's longest-running war....she's young, beautiful and recklessly passionate."

ASIA

• On June 1, 2001, in Katmandu's Narayanhiti Palace, a heavily-armed Crown Prince Dipendra opened fire on the royal family, killing his parents, brother, sister and others, and then shot himself. Virtually brain dead, he was considered Nepal's new king until he died two days later. The history of Nepal's royal family is described in "Massacre at the Palace: The Doomed Royal Dynasty of Nepal" [New York: Talk Miramax Books] by **Jonathan Gregson**, a journalist who grew up in Calcutta. Of the massacre, the author comments: "Nobody, not even the most morbid of Jacobean playwrights or Greek tragedians, could have invented a plot with so much self-inflicted damage, nor such a bizarre twist at the end." Gregson writes about the complex aristocracy of Nepal, a nation of several tribes, noting, "It has been estimated that there are as many different languages

and dialects spoken within Nepal as in the whole of Western Europe."

EUROPE

• In "Caviar: The Strange History and Uncertain Future of the World's Most Coveted Delicacy" [New York: Broadway Books], **Inga Saffron**, Moscow correspondent for *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, 1994-1998, and now the paper's architecture critic, describes the history, biology, politics and environmental threats to what chef Jacques Pépin has called "the ultimate edible." Here are some of Saffron's reports: In



Inga Saffron

old Russia peasants ate sturgeon eggs because their religious calendars contained some 200 meatless days. The sturgeon whose eggs become caviar is an ancient fish, 250 million years older than humans. Sturgeons can live more than a century and grow to huge size, the biggest on record weighing 4,570 pounds and measuring 28 feet long. A single female can carry 10 million eggs. Eggs must be removed when the fish is still breathing, otherwise harmful enzymes will seep into ovaries and flesh. Survival of sturgeons is threatened today by poachers, international smuggling, dams, toxic wastes and other hazards in the fish's native habitat. At the turn of the 20th century, overfishing effectively wiped out American sturgeon in the Delaware River. During the Soviet era, Moscow controlled about 90 percent

(Continued on Page 11)

**WAR and
SATELLITE IMAGERY**
Wednesday, December 11
at 6:00pm
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OPC HOLIDAY PARTY
Monday, January 6
from 6:00 to 9:00pm
Open Bar, Buffet Dinner,
Dessert and Coffee
\$45 per person
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